

The Grace of God's liberation

Matthew 12:1-21

Legalist – someone who wants to let his or her conscience be _____ guide

“Nothing is perfect except God's Word.” Psalms 119:96

“There is no one on earth who does what is right all the time and never makes a mistake.” Ecclesiastes 7:20

What does legalism do?

1. It _____ my initiative
2. It _____ my relationships
3. It _____ God's priorities
4. It _____ my happiness

“So don't be too good or too wise! Why destroy yourself?”
Ecclesiastes 7:16

“You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Have you lost your senses? After starting your Christian lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort?”
Galatians 3:3

How to recognize legalism:

1. I know I am a legalist if man-made rules become more important than _____ teaching

“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days shall you labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work.” Exodus 20:8, 9

2. I know I am a legalist if man-made rules matter more than _____.

Principle: People are more important than the _____.
Relationships are more important than the _____.

3. I know I am a legalist if _____ is more important than ministry
4. I know I am a legalist when sin becomes an acceptable _____

“We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness is as filthy rags.” Isaiah 64:6

How to get rid of legalism:

Principle: Treat people as _____ did.

Three things that you can do to help you let go of legalism:

1. Be a _____
2. Seek _____
3. Offer _____